



Air Force Prime Time, a weekly news magazine for and about airmen stationed overseas, airs Thursdays at 8:25 p.m. Central European Time on AFN television. In this week's edition, see how the Air Force is moving ahead in the 21st century; what the Air Force is doing in Europe, Africa and Southwest Asia; and more.

News briefs

Reserved parking spots

Parking spots marked with either permanent, moveable or partially-covered reserved signs are reserved for wing leadership. People parking there who are not authorized will be ticketed.

Buses, carpooling

Base officials remind people of the transportation policy. There is a mandatory shuttle service for ALL those living on-base (Spangdahlem Air Base and Bitburg Annex), as well as those living in government-leased housing areas. Everyone else is highly encouraged to carpool with coworkers or neighbors.

TDY pay

There's a new finance system coming to Spangdahlem Air Base, called Travel Manager/Federal Automated System for Travel, or FAST.

FAST has actually been around since 1996, at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington D.C., and seems to be well liked. In fact, all the other United States Air Forces in Europe bases, except Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, currently use this system.

It's a computer-based travel authorization, or orders, and a travel voucher processing system. Travelers are able to develop their travel authorization, send it through a verification process and print out orders from a work computer. When travelers return from a TDY, they are able to file the travel voucher from a work computer. The system enables the traveler to get paid faster because it decreases the processing time for both the travel authorization and the travel voucher.

A team from Bolling AFB visits Spangdahlem AB Oct. 22 through Nov. 16 to start implementing the system. The team will install the required computer equipment, software and help get the first three squadrons, 52nd Comptroller Squadron, 52nd Mission Support Squadron and 52nd Communications Squadron, online. Additionally, travelers will attend a one-on-one and a 30-minute training class on how to use the user-friendly system.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. Patrick Armstrong at 452-5980.

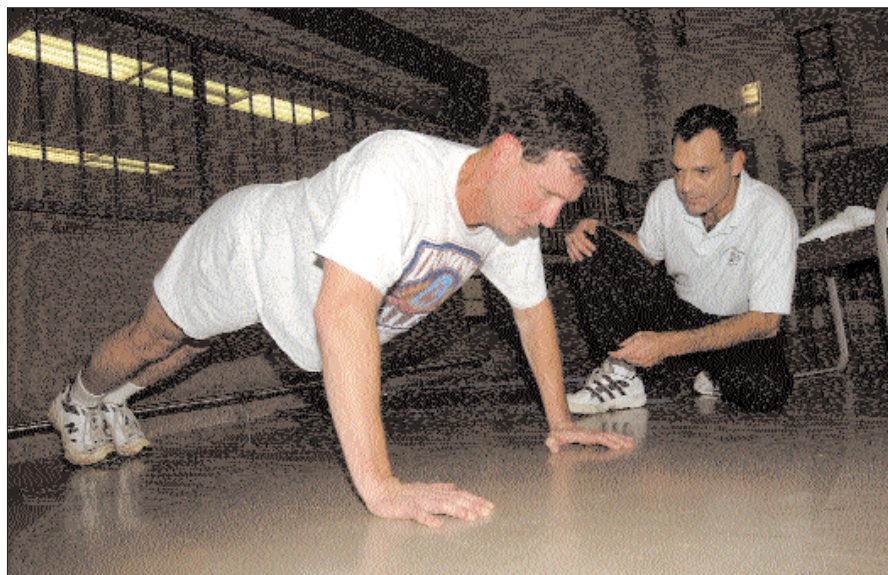
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Eifel Times

Vol. 35, Issue 36

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Oct. 12, 2001



Airman 1st Class Heather Zokal

One more

Col. Ed Kringer, U.S. Air Forces in Europe Director of Personnel, Ramstein Air Base, does push-ups while Tech. Sgt. Vance Grazak, 86th Medical Squadron, counts the repetitions Oct. 3 at the Ramstein Health and Wellness Center in Germany. USAFE commanders and headquarters directors took their annual physical fitness exams, which now include push-ups and sit-ups, during the Fall Commanders' Conference, held annually at Ramstein AB.

U.S. food airdrop to Afghanistan underscores humanitarian pledge

By Master Sgts. Randy Mitchell and Kenneth Fidler
United States Air Forces in Europe Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Two C-17 Globemaster III aircraft flew a daring 22-hour mission to airdrop some 35,000 humanitarian daily rations into Afghanistan early Monday.

The airdrop came hours after U.S. and allied aircraft bombed terrorist targets inside the country.

The aircrews flew the 6,500-mile round trip sortie, which originated from Ramstein Air Base. They dropped their cargo into the eastern and northern parts of the country.

It was the first U.S. military airdrop of humanitarian aid into the embattled nation, and the first time the Air Force used this kind of airdrop operationally. The aircraft flew under combat

conditions at a higher altitude.

That made for a "very dangerous mission," Col. Bob Allardice, the overall mission commander, said at a press conference at the base after the aircraft returned safely.

"This unprecedented mission to deliver aid to the Afghan people was both very difficult and challenging," Allardice told some 50 international media representatives. "This airdrop mission was the first installment of President Bush's \$320 million aid package for the people of Afghanistan."

The C-17s parked in front of the press conference area, and the jubilant crews congratulated each other as they exited the aircraft.

See Airdrop, Page 2

Air Force offers more guidelines on 'use or lose' leave

By Staff Sgt. Amy Parr
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — In the wake of an increased operations tempo in support of the president's campaign against terrorism, many Air Force people have been left wondering if they lost accumulated leave when the new fiscal year began Monday.

Typically, Air Force regulations state any accumulated leave in excess of 60 days is

lost when each new fiscal year begins.

People with 20 or fewer days of "use or lose" leave automatically had their leave carried over to the next year, said Maj. Karen Corrente, chief of Air Force travel, transportation and benefits policy at the Pentagon. People with leave in excess of 20 days were only credited the 20 days.

Corrente said because the time between the terrorist attacks Sept. 11 and the end of

the fiscal year was only 20 days, any leave days that exceed this is lost; however, people can follow normal procedures to request leave days in excess of 20 be restored.

With the announcement that leave lost between Sept. 11 and 30 would be restored, Corrente said many people have been confused about what to do.

"The leave may be taken away in October, but it will be automatically returned

in December. So, it's important to check your end-of-month December (leave and earnings statement). Base commanders have the authority to decline restoring leave for those who may lose leave simply because they chose not to take it," she said.

All restored leave must be used by the end of fiscal 2002, she said.

For more information, contact the military personnel flight at 452-6256.

Airdrop

Continued from Page 1

Though not identified for security reasons, the airborne mission commander did speak to the assembled media about the rigors involved with the mission.

"This mission required intensive planning, preparation and coordination," he said. "The success of a demanding and dangerous mission like this is a testament to the professionalism and dedication of our crews and the people who support them."

Aircrews depressurized the C-17s and opened their cargo doors on the approach to the drop zone, Allardice said. At the precise time, the pilots pulled the aircraft nose up about seven degrees and the loadmasters released the specially constructed container delivery systems with the rations.

The containers — called the tri-wall air delivery system — have a static line that tightens and flips the containers once they clear the aircraft.

Once open, the pre-packaged food rations

disburse and spread over the drop zone.

"We determined our drop zones, taking into account where the people who needed the aid are located, potential threats in the area and existing wind conditions to maximize accuracy to the best of our ability," Allardice said.

"Our goal was to get the aid to the right people, without putting them at undue risk."

Each of the 2,200-calorie ready-to-eat food rations contains two main vegetarian meals based heavily on lentils, beans and/or rice. It also has complementary items such as bread, a fruit bar, a fortified biscuit, peanut butter and spices.

"One meal provides enough nutrition for an entire day for one person, but needs to be supplemented with liquids," said Capt. Dana Whelan, a registered dietician with Ramstein's 86th Medical Group. "The meals are a good source of protein, fortified with vitamins and minerals and are appropriate for someone in a poor state of nutrition." (Air Force Print News)

Accidents

By Staff Sgt. Edward D. Paxton
52nd Security Forces Squadron
Reports and Analysis

Eighteen Team Eifel members experienced vehicle accidents in the past week, four of which were major.

The first happened on A-1, adjacent to the B-51 exit. Trier Polizei found that an airman was traveling too fast for weather conditions. As she exited, her vehicle started to slide and she struck a pole. Her vehicle was totaled but she was not injured.

The second took place on B-50, near the Albachmule turnoff. Bitburg Polizei determined an airman was traveling towards Spangdahlem Air Base too fast for road conditions and rear-ended a stopped vehicle. Shortly after, another driver rear-ended the airman's vehicle. A German passenger in the first vehicle was transported to Bitburg Krankenhaus and treated for whiplash. The airman's vehicle was totaled and both he and the second German were cited for driving too

fast for road and weather conditions.

One accident occurred on Spangdahlem Air Base. Security forces found that a family member was traveling through a construction site on Freedom Drive when he didn't make a turn and his vehicle went into a ditch. His vehicle was towed from the scene.

The last one happened on K-100 between Dudeldorf and Spangdahlem. Again, an airman was driving too fast for road conditions. The investigation revealed he swerved to avoid an animal in the road and he lost control. His vehicle slid off the road and struck a pole, four sections of wire fence, a water buffalo and a tree. His vehicle was totaled but he had no injuries.

The 14 minor accidents involved:

- Three for too fast for road conditions
 - Two accidents occurred while backing
 - Nine were from inattentive driving
- In addition, 28 citations were issued.

Briefs

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Leadership award nominees represent USAFE

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany -- Two Spangdahlem Air Base airmen were nominated recently to represent USAFE in the 2001 Lance P. Sijan Leadership Award competition.

Maj. Terry Watkins, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron, represents USAFE in the senior officer category. The junior officer category nominee is Capt. Shawn W. Campbell, 52nd Services Squadron.

The Sijan award was created in 1981. Sijan, an Air Force captain, died while in captivity in Vietnam. Prior to his capture, the Air Force Academy graduate and Medal of Honor recipient (posthumous) evaded the North Vietnamese for six weeks after being shot down in November 1967. (U.S. Air Forces in Europe News Service)

Distinguished graduates

Two Team Eifel members recently won the distinguished graduate award from their Kisking NCO Academy class.

Tech. Sgt. Richard J. Wayman Jr., 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron (Provisional), and Tech. Sgt. Mark D. Brigger, NATO AWACS, Geilenkirchen, Germany, were two of nine to receive the award out of 98 students.

Alleged fraud in England

The British Ministry of Defense Police and Air Force Office of Special Investigations are jointly investigating a vehicle rental company used by U.S. members in and around Royal Air Force Lakenheath, Alconbury and Mildenhall, England.

The allegations are that the company may have charged for damage to rental vehicles that didn't occur. In addition, people may have been deceived and don't know they paid unnecessary or unlawful fees. To establish if this company has subjected you to the alleged frauds, Special Agent Valerie Mackin asks people to call OSI at 452-6291.

Update personnel information

Military members are encouraged to update their records. Items such as emergency data cards, SGLI forms, DEERS eligibility, wills, powers of attorney and dependent care data should be current for all members, regardless of deployment status. For a military personnel flight appointment, call 452-6553. For a legal office appointment, call 452-6796.

NCO retraining program

The Air Force recently announced the beginning of the fiscal 2002 NCO Retraining Program. Approximately 1,300 staff through master sergeants have the opportunity to retrain from career fields with NCO overages to career fields with NCO shortages. A list of affected career fields is available at the employments section in the military personnel flight.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Brian Matthews at 452-6256.



Airman 1st Class Michelle S. Roquid

Load crew competition

Airman 1st Class Jimmy Adkins, 22nd Fighter Squadron, inspects an LUA-117 missile launcher prior to loading an AGM-65 at the Load Crew of the Quarter competition held Oct. 5. The winner of the competition was the 23rd Fighter Squadron team, represented by Staff Sgt. Jason Moenter, Airman 1st Class Robert Hoag and Senior Airman Kristopher Meagan. The Jammer Jamboree competition, which determines the best jammer driver in the wing, took place the same day. Airman 1st Class Bryan Alrick, also from the 23rd FS, won the contest based on fastest time and least amount of cones hit.

Medical group gets new members off to 'Right Start'

New program aims to enhance wing readiness by speeding up screening

By Senior Airman Jennifer Lindsey
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

A new program to enhance readiness initiated by the 52nd Medical Group speeds up medical file screening and Air Force members' worldwide deployment availability.

Medical Right Start targets Spangdahlem Air Base newcomers for one-stop medical in-processing, including records review and preventive medical care.

The 52nd MDG modeled its Medical Right Start program from a similar program used Aviano Air Base, Italy. Maj. Tammy Doyle, 52nd Medical Group chief healthcare integrator and Capt. Maria Sacco, 52nd MDG primary care management nurse, modified Aviano AB's program to include on-site medical services including immunizations and laboratory tests.

"The new program enhances force readiness, promotes prevention and decreases the time needed for medical in-processing," said Sacco. "It's an integrated team effort which allows health care providers to be proactive in all aspects of health care."

Doyle said the program works well for the clinic and newcomers have given it positive reviews since its implementation about a month ago.

Under the new program, people first attend the initial newcomer's orientation, during which families:

- Complete an in-processing checklist and Health Enrollment Assessment Review.
- Receive a TRICARE briefing and complete a brief medical history and TRICARE enrollment forms.
- Turn in medical, dental and shot records.
- Have all their medical records reviewed by medical technicians.

The following day during Medical Right Start, newcomers:

- Receive all mandatory medical briefings.
- Receive all necessary immunizations, finish part one of the Spangdahlem Medical Annual Readiness Testing, including laboratory tests.



Staff Sgt. Dawn Robb, 52nd Medical Group laboratory technician, draws blood from Senior Airman Felisha Whitton, at the new Medical Right Start briefing held at the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center.

Airman 1st Class Michelle S. Roquid

For the program to work, active-duty members should hand carry personal and family medical, shot and dental records to the newcomers briefing. Medical group representatives collect and review them there. Also, newcomers should provide copies of all medication prescriptions so a medical technician can enter them into the system. Special order medications can also be processed at this time.

Under former medical in-processing procedures, newcomers dropped their records off at family practice, flight medicine or the pediatric clinic, according to Doyle. Medical technicians eventually reviewed the records for

preventive care recommendations. They also checked active-duty records for mobility-readiness status.

"After review, a letter was sent to members notifying them of anything they needed to accomplish to update their medical care or mobility status. The majority of individuals didn't follow through and accomplish items identified," said Doyle. "As a result, newcomers were not ready for deployment when the time came and processing lines were lengthy."

Under Medical Right Start, the 52nd MDG in-processes newcomers within days compared to six weeks the process formerly took, Doyle said.

Stressful times challenge even most loving relationships

By Michele Linnen
Family advocacy outreach office

Traditionally in October, Air Force family outreach organizations feature domestic violence prevention education programs; however, recent tragic events and the anticipation of what's to come can be especially stressful on families.

As a result, Air Force and other U.S. family outreach agencies focus on increasing this year's domestic violence public awareness campaign.

Eifel-region community members can contribute to the effort by developing and nurturing emotionally healthy relationships to put an end to domestic violence.

Domestic violence is demonstrated by a pattern of coercive behaviors that may include repeated battering, psychological abuse, sexual assault, progressive social isolation, deprivation and intimidation. It can take place within families of any military rank, social, economic, religious,

cultural or ethnic status. The victim and perpetrator can be either gender.

Abuse is about control and selfish power brought on by the perpetrator's low self-esteem. The victim typically also suffers from feelings of low self worth as well. Too often, abusive relationships are generational. Adults, who as children were brought up in an abusive home, have a greater chance of repeating the same inappropriate behavior. Left uncorrected, the cycle of verbal, sexual or physical abuse moves onto another generation.

The good news is people have much control over their destiny and don't have to repeat unhealthy relationship patterns.

The 52nd Medical Group Life Skills Center and Family Advocacy staff members offer educational literature, classes, programs and counseling for people wanting to strengthen family relationship skills. The Air Force recognizes it's common for families to experience increased tensions

resulting from relationship conflicts, family member deaths, parent-child communications challenges and financial demands. Therefore, it encourages people to seek help and prevent family problems from escalating.

In addition to encouraging military members to seek help before problems escalate, the Air Force also wants members to recognize and prevent family violence.

Air Force policy doesn't require base agencies or supervisors to document preventive measures taken by members. Receiving pre-marital counseling or attending parenting or relationship communication workshops isn't documented. However, maltreatment cases are reported in medical records. Therefore, it's crucial for Air Force families to address small conflicts promptly. Seeking help is never viewed as a sign of weakness, but rather as wisdom.

Mandatory reporting of suspected

domestic abuse is also everyone's responsibility. Reports can be made anonymously. Reported abuse cases are addressed with sensitivity for all parties involved.

Throughout October, Air Force families should take time to consider how they're contributing to putting an end to domestic violence. Getting to know the neighbors, offering a nonjudgmental conversation to overworked members, learning to listen and communicating family member expectations, clarifying family values and ending destructive behaviors are just a few ways to create secure, loving relationships. Simple random acts of kindness toward family members and neighbors can reduce feelings of isolation and encourage a safe, caring community.

For more information on domestic violence, or developing effective communication and stress management skills, call the family advocacy outreach office at 452-8279 or 452-3130.

Local Unified America Fund helps terrorist attack victims

People able to help with spare foreign change, cash donations for Eifel community donation

By Staff Sgt. Cindy York
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

People around Spangdahlem Air Base soon won't have much use for the German marks and other European money in their wallets with the conversion to the Euro currency.

There are people - the victims of the Sept. 11 tragedy in the United States - who can use the foreign money, and a collective effort with Spangdahlem AB private organizations, Community Bank and the American Red Cross will help get it to them.

A box is set up at Community Bank for coin and paper money donations for the terrorist victims. The money, which can be from any country, not just those about to adopt the Euro, is being collected at Community Bank to be added to the locally created Unified America Fund.

People can throw any kind of change in the box at the bank. It will be exchanged later. People can also donate cash or checks to the fund through any bank teller or their unit points of contacts. POCs were established to act as stewards for the people and take confusion out of the giving process.

The Unified America Fund was created Sept. 17 by members of the Spangdahlem AB Top 3, Spangdahlem Spouses and Enlisted Members Club, Company Grade Officers Council and the Officer's and Civilian's and Spouses Club. After a lengthy collection period, the money will be donated to the local Red Cross chapter to go toward the relief effort in the United States.

The idea, according to Master Sgt. John Johnston, Top 3 vice president is to donate money to the victims from the Eifel community collectively, instead of having individual private organizations go out on their own to make donations.

"In times like these, we find ourselves wanting to help but can't because we are physically removed from the situation. Since we can't

be there to help with rescue and recovery, or blood donations, we instinctively do what we can by reaching into our pocketbooks,"

Johnston said. "The intent of the Unified America Fund is to provide order and show our community's support for the victim's families and others affected by the tragic events of Sept. 11.

"This is not actually a Red Cross- or Community Bank-sponsored collection, but an Eifel community-sponsored collection," Johnston said. "However, the money is being held in a special account at the bank and will be donated to the Red Cross fund for the victims."

Johnston said donations into the account continue to grow daily. The last he checked there was about

\$4,500. That figure only includes money people have donated through the tellers at the bank and does not include the coin donations.

According to Andrew Harper, chief customer service representative at Community Bank, the coin collection is also going well.

"The box has been out about two weeks. We opened it for the first time Monday and there was about \$150 in American change. We can't count the foreign change right now, so that won't be factored in until the end of the year."

Special Agent Todd Langenfeld, Det. 518 Office of Special Investigations commander, hopes the entire community gets involved with donating.

"Every bit of change will help people in the United States to have their second chance," Langenfeld said.

As far as Langenfeld knows, Spangdahlem AB is the only base doing this type of collection, but he'd like to challenge the other bases across Europe to do the same.

"Coins that will soon be a hassle for you are actually a necessity for people in the United States."

For more information or to find out who your unit donation POC is, call Johnston at 452-6894 or Master Sgt. Deno Mackin at 452-6071.



In times like these, we find ourselves wanting to help but can't because we are physically removed from the situation. Since we can't be there to help with rescue and recovery, or blood donations, we instinctively do what we can by reaching into our pocketbooks.

**Master Sgt.
John Johnston
-- Spangdahlem AB
Top 3 vice president**



Community Mailbox

Just Airmen

The 52nd Fighter Wing offers the following JAM activities:

- Techno Rave, 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. Saturday, Saber Club. Call 452-6090 for details.
- Oktoberfest and karaoke contest, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday, Saber Club.
- Megaben productions, "Comedy After Dark," 8 p.m. Oct. 20, Saber Club. Tickets at the door cost \$13 for members, \$16 for non-members.
- Airman appreciation meal, Oct. 21, Mosel Dining Hall.
- Open mic-night, 7 p.m. Oct. 25, base community activities center. Call 452-7260 for details.
- Salsa all-nighter, 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. Oct. 27, Saber Club.
- Halloween toga party, 9 p.m. Oct. 31, base CAC.
- Saber Club Halloween party, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Oct. 31.

New mothers

The 52nd Medical Group Life Skills Center new mothers' support group meets 10 a.m. to noon Monday. Call Sharon Gilmore at 452-3130 for details.

Holiday bazaar

More than 130 European vendors sell their wares at the Eifel holiday bazaar taking place noon to 8 p.m. Nov. 9, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Nov. 10 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 11

on Spangdahlem Air Base. The Officer's and Civilian's Spouses Club donates bazaar proceeds to various base quality-of-life initiatives and local charitable organizations. The event is open to U.S. and NATO identification card holders.

Director wanted

Spangdahlem Middle School seeks a director for the spring play. Theater background is preferable, but not necessary. Call Jeanie McNamara at 452-7255 for details.

Red Ribbon week

Drug prevention education programs take place Oct. 22-26 in local military schools and around the base in recognition of national Red Ribbon week. Call Frank Mayer at 452-8302 for details.

School carnival

The Spangdahlem Middle School Bulldog Harvest Fair takes place 5:30-8:30 tonight in the school. Representatives will sell game and activity tickets at the door. For more information, call Jody Turner at 06575-959127.

Auditions

ACT-Eifel community theater auditions for the play, "A Rented Christmas," take place at 1 p.m. Saturday in the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center. Part openings include those for men, women and several children. Show dates are Dec. 14-16 and 21-22.

Communications class

A four-week class on improving communications and relationship skills takes place 7-8:30 p.m. each Tuesday,

beginning Tuesday through Nov. 6 in Bitburg Annex building 67.

For more information, call the family advocacy outreach office at 452-3128 or 452-3130.

Christmas ornaments

The 23rd Fighter Squadron Hawk Spouses Club sells 2001 Cochem-Mosel ornaments by artist Robert Wilson for \$8 each 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday at the Spangdahlem Air Base Post Office.

Call Marshon Kempf at 06561-693645 for details.

La Leche League

A meeting for breastfeeding mothers takes place at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Bitburg Annex hospital. Call Margaret Loffelman at 06565-7555 or Alice DaFoe at 06561-683893 for more information.

Spouses meeting

The 52nd Communications Squadron Spouses Group meets 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday in the Bitburg Annex Chapel.

Call George Deanne at 06569-960805 or Patty Hutson at 06553-900331 for details.

Family support center news

The following classes take place in building 307 on Spangdahlem Air Base. Call 452-6422 for details or to register.

■ European job seekers, noon to 1 p.m. Oct. 29.

■ Basic investing, 6-8 p.m. Oct. 29.

The following classes take place in building 2001 on the Bitburg Annex. Call 452-9491 for details or to register.

■ Transition and spouse employment, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 9-12. Attendees should

wear civilian attire.

■ Choosing mutual funds, 6-8 p.m. Tuesday.

■ Home buying, 6-8 p.m. Thursday.

■ Resume writing, 8-11 a.m. Oct. 23.

■ Interview skills, 1-3 p.m. Oct. 30.

■ Career profiling, 3-5:30 p.m. Oct. 30.

Poster contest

The 52nd Fighter Wing energy conservation poster contest submission deadline is Oct. 22.

Elementary and middle school students should submit entries on standard 8.5-inch by 11-inch paper with their name, grade and school name on the back. A representative will pick up entries from the schools. Home-schooled students can drop off entries at the building 115 service desk.

Wing leadership will recognize contest winners at an awards ceremony taking place at 8:30 a.m. Oct. 29 in the Spang Club.

Skill development center news

Instruction is free for all classes; some supplies not included. Register for classes at the Crafts Corner shop on Spangdahlem Air Base, unless otherwise indicated.

The following class takes place in building 189 on Spangdahlem Air Base. Call 452-6841 for details or to register.

■ Toile painting, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Oct. 22.

The following classes take place in building 2002 on the Bitburg Annex. Call Crafts Corner at 452-4141 for details or to register.

■ Four-week quilting class, 6-8 p.m. Oct. 22-Nov. 12.

■ Basket weaving, 5-9 p.m. Oct. 23. Supplies cost \$15.

■ Toile painting, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Oct. 24.

At Your SERVICE

SPANGDAHLEM

Chapel

- ▶ Catholic Mass: 11:45 a.m. Wednesday-Friday; 5 p.m. Saturday; and 9:30 a.m. Sunday
- ▶ Confessions, 4 p.m. Saturday or by appointment
- ▶ Catholic religious education, 11 a.m. Sunday
- ▶ Protestant Sunday worship: 11:15 a.m.
- ▶ Protestant Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.
- ▶ Korean worship, 1 p.m. Sunday

Commissary

- ▶ Monday-Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
- ▶ Thursday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
- ▶ Saturday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
- ▶ Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Main exchange

- ▶ Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
- ▶ Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Child development center

- ▶ Monday-Saturday, 5 a.m.-7 p.m.

BXtra (shoppette)

- ▶ Monday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Gas station

- ▶ Monday-Saturday, 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
- ▶ Sunday, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

Outdoor recreation

- ▶ Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- ▶ Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Airmen's Attic

- ▶ Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Bowling center

- ▶ Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
- ▶ Friday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-midnight
- ▶ Sunday, noon-9 p.m.

BITBURG ANNEX

Chapel

- ▶ Catholic Mass: 9:15 a.m. Tuesday and 11:30 a.m. Sunday
- ▶ Catholic religious education: 9:45 a.m. Sunday
- ▶ Confessions, 10:45 a.m. Sunday
- ▶ Protestant Sunday worship: 8:15 a.m. liturgical; 9:35 a.m. contemporary; and 1 p.m. Gospel
- ▶ Protestant Sunday school: 11:30 a.m.

Child development center

- ▶ Monday-Saturday, 6 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Commissary

- ▶ Monday, closed
- ▶ Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
- ▶ Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
- ▶ Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Shoppette

- ▶ Monday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Furniture store

- ▶ Monday, closed
- ▶ Tuesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Main exchange

- ▶ Monday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Gas station

- ▶ Monday-Saturday, 6:30 a.m.-7 p.m.
- ▶ Sunday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Car care center

- ▶ Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
- ▶ Saturday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- ▶ Sunday, closed

Airmen's Attic

- ▶ Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Oberweiss Annex

Pet spa

- ▶ Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

AFPC sets up Stop Loss control center

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas -- Officials at the Air Force Personnel Center have set up a central question and answer point about how Stop Loss applies to the nearly 10,000 people previously approved to retire or separate from active duty between now and April 30.

Experts at the Stop Loss Control Center are answering questions about retirements and separations for personnel flights, commanders and individuals who have specific Stop Loss questions.

Stop Loss, which took effect Oct. 5, gives military service secretaries authority to keep on active duty members who would normally be planning to retire or leave the service.

Just more than 11,516 people have approved separation or retirement dates between today and April 30, officials said. There are 926 officers and 4,593 enlisted people with approved retirement dates that are now held by Stop Loss action; and 1,256 officers and 4,741 enlisted who have approved separation dates through the end of April.

Those numbers may include some who are exempt from Stop Loss as previously announced.

"So far, the attitude of the callers is impressive — we're not hearing from a lot of angry people," said Master Sgt. Mike Potter, superintendent of retirements. "People are concerned, but not angry."

"Our primary role is to assist and advise the MAJCOM personnel staffs and military personnel flights in the execution of the Stop Loss program," said Lt. Col. Rich Binger, AFPC separations branch chief. "But we are also here to help those affected by Stop Loss. We will work hand-in-hand with the (military personnel flight) retirements and separations sections to help people get the answers they need."

Local personnel flights will continue processing retirements and separations actions and are the first place to turn for those with Stop Loss questions, said Binger.

Based on the numerous calls received thus far, the control center staff has put together a frequently asked questions Web page on the AFPC Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil.

Military personnel flights or commander's support staffs, as well as interested individuals, can reach the control center at 210-565-2374 or DSN 665-2374 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, Central standard time. 52nd Fighter Wing members may also call Tech. Sgt. Diana Pierce at 452-6255 concerning Stop Loss.

At first, people in every Air Force specialty code are prevented from leaving active duty in this Stop Loss action, said Binger. During the first 30 days, major command, personnel officials and career field managers are matching war fighting needs with the possibility that some career field Stop Loss restrictions could be lifted.

"But, obviously, operational needs will be the first priority," Binger said.

Waiver applications are also being accepted and will be evaluated individually by MAJCOM commanders, according to officials.

Some of those already far enough along in the process of leaving the Air Force are being allowed to outprocess.

"We learned a lot from our Kosovo Stop Loss effort. We've tried, this time, to address a lot of the issues that came up last time right up front," said Lt. Col. Michael Maloney, retirements and separations division chief.

Although all new departures from the Air Force are on hold, there are exemptions for people serving an overseas unaccompanied assignment where the tour length is 15 months or less, and who will retire or separate upon tour completion.

Other categories of people exempt are: those undergoing involuntary discharge; or mandatory separation or retirement because of disabilities or hardships, officials said.

So far, Stop Loss will not affect promotions, PCS moves or training class schedules, officials said.

"Every effort will be made to ensure once Stop Loss ends, everyone has the flexibility in making the transition to civilian life," Maloney said.

This is the first time since the air war over Kosovo that this emergency authority has been implemented. (Air Force Print News)



Airman 1st Class Michelle S. Roquid

Table tennis anyone?

Airman 1st Class Edward W. Stasney, 52nd Communications Squadron, plays table tennis at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center during Sports Day Oct. 3. In addition to table tennis, people participated in a 5K run, bowling, golf and more. After the sporting events, wing members enjoyed a barbecue while watching the support group, logistics group and operations group commanders wash a medical group vehicle. The medical group won the summer safety campaign contest.

Editorial Staff

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Photos are property of the U.S. Air Force unless otherwise noted. The Rumor Control Hotline is 452-6833.



Col. Greg Ihde

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a way to get answers to questions you still have after using your chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest will be published in the *Eifel Times* and may be edited or paraphrased for brevity or clarity. Submit your Direct Line via:

■ DirectLine@spangdahlem.af.mil
■ Mailed to 52nd FW/PA, Unit 3680
Box 220, APO AE 09126

■ To public affairs in building 23.
■ Concerns may also be sent via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are accepted. To receive a personal response you must include your name and phone number. Call the Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more information.

Number of days since last DUI:

As of Thursday

4

You have a choice.
Call Airmen Against
Drunk Driving
at 452-2233.

Viewpoint

Oct. 12, 2001

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From the top

Vice commander assures safety of families

By Col. John Watkins
52nd Fighter Wing vice commander

Since the tragedy that occurred Sept. 11, our families have seen many changes take place both on and off base. Some of those changes are obvious. Some are transparent. All are critical to ensuring the safety of our Eifel Community.

Behind the scenes, there are many resources and plans in place to ensure our equipment, facilities and most importantly our people and families, are always protected.

The wing currently consists of about 13,300 people. Of those, 5,500 are family members. I want you to know that we take the protection of

our family members very seriously at all levels - from the lowest ranking airman on base to the most senior general officers in theater.

Rest assured, we have plans and the where-with-all to resolve the myriad of possible scenarios. There are many people in the wing dedicated and trained to respond quickly and appropriately to any type of imaginable - even unimaginable - situation - day or night, on or off base, during school or after duty hours. They have proven themselves time and again in real world situations and exercises. They are ready.

While we can't detail specifics of our plans nor training for obvious reasons, I want to reassure everyone, particularly families, we are prepared to

take care of every member of Team Eifel.

Whenever decisions are made in this wing, I can guarantee you that one of the very first questions that runs through my mind, and is always asked by commanders at all levels, is "How will this affect the safety and morale of our military community and their families?"

I've been asked whether we're prepared to meet the needs of our families, whether the 52nd Fighter Wing has the plans and the ability to respond. The answer is an emphatic "yes!" I ask that you trust in us and in your military spouses to fulfill the commitment and responsibility we take very seriously in ensuring the safety of all members of Team Eifel.

Direct Line

NEO plan

Question: I'd like to address a few issues that Eifel spouses have raised in the aftermath of the recent terrorist attacks on the United States.

As a military spouse, I'm 110 percent ready to support my husband as he helps defend and protect our way of life. My husband has been put on 12-hour shifts and is fully prepared to deploy if called upon. I support this. I don't mind having dinner hot at 4 p.m. before a long night shift or ensuring there's a quiet house while he sleeps for a few hours after work.

However, why is there not a noncombatant evacuation order plan in place in the Eifel? When we were in Pacific Air Forces, NEO was a real part of military life. Because of that, I'm ready for my family to have to relocate to someplace safe on a moment's notice. I'm concerned that 90 percent of our spouses here aren't prepared for such an event. Most may not know shot records, passports, emergency money and a power of attorney are vital items to have readily available.

In addition, even those spouses who are somewhat aware of NEO procedures believe evacuation means we all go home, while the reality is it means we are evacuated to a safer place, not automatically back home. Most spouses assume we will be well taken care of, when in reality most units on base don't even have a NEO plan.

When we arrived here from PACAF, I checked with our unit regarding a NEO plan and was told it's not necessary in United States Air Forces in Europe. With the recent events, I have to ask why NEO isn't mandatory?

Also, is there going to be any attempt to explain what exactly Force Protection Conditions Delta, Charlie, Bravo and Alpha mean? While the active-duty population understands these as military lingo, to a spouse it's a foreign language.

I only hope someone holds some type of spouse briefing to assure they are prepared. After all, our airmen will be more mentally prepared to serve and protect when they know Team Eifel has done everything possible to protect the ones they love.

Answer: The end of the Cold War has brought many changes and one of those is your correct assessment that USAFE has no firm plans to evacuate noncombatants back to the United States. Even though the threat of terrorist activity is real, the threat of Spangdahlem AB being overrun by hostile forces is extremely low given the current political and military situation. This is the situation that NEO plans had addressed in years past. The situation for Team Eifel is different from conditions in the Pacific where there is a higher threat of aggressive action from a very specific direction.

Currently, Team Eifel members should be prepared for peacetime contingencies such as natural disasters just as they would back in the states. Your advice on the items required is spot-on for any emergency

situation that may arise.

In reference to force protection conditions, it's the responsibility of military members to explain to their families what they mean and what role their families play in keeping Team Eifel safe and secure. Numerous factors are used to determine our FPCON.

Depending upon the specific circumstances, we may implement specific measures from a higher FPCON than you see in the FPCON signs around the base; however, the basic definitions of each level follow:

■ **Alpha:** There is a general threat of possible terrorist activity against people and facilities, the nature and extent of which are unpredictable.

■ **Bravo:** An increased and more predictable threat of terrorist activity exists.

■ **Charlie:** An incident has occurred or intelligence is received indicating some form of terrorist action against people and facilities is imminent.

■ **Delta:** A terrorist attack has occurred in the immediate area or intelligence has been received that terrorist action against a specific location or person is likely.

The security forces squadron has provided training to the key spouses group on force protection and will gladly speak to any group that would like more information. In addition, unit force protection points of contact have wallet-size cards available that explain each condition.

GLH rumors

Question: My wife and I have heard several rumors about the future of government-leased housing. One rumor is the housing contract is going to end soon and we are going to be moved out of GLH.

There are several more rumors, but I'm sure you get the point. We have lived in Herforst GLH for 1 1/2 years and before that we live in Spangdahlem Air Base housing for a year. We are very happy in GLH and we don't want to move back into Spangdahlem AB housing.

Could someone please give us an answer on this because we are very concerned about our future housing situation?

Answer: Thank you for giving me the opportunity to dispel the rumors and set the record straight. The lease renewals for housing units in Speicher, Herforst and Binsfeld have been under negotiation with the property owners for some time. Negotiations are now completed and pending Congressional approval.

The new leases are being extended to 2006. The negotiations for these leases resulted in many new improvements for the units.

(Editor's note: Look for details on the renovations in an upcoming article in the *Eifel Times*.)

Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. More movie synopsis information is available at:

www.aafes.com/europe/eur_mov/snop.htm

Bitburg Castle

Today

Jeepers Creepers (R)

After making a horrific discovery in the basement of an old abandoned church, Trish and her brother Darryl watch their routine road trip home from college turn into a heart-stopping race for their lives. They find themselves the chosen prey of an indestructible force that relentlessly pursues them.

Saturday

Jeepers Creepers

Sunday

Final Fantasy: The Spirit Within (PG-13)

In the future, the Earth is invaded. Great cities are deserted, populations are decimated and aliens take over the planet. Aki Ross, Dr. Sid and the few humans who remain must find a way to survive the invasion and reclaim the planet.

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

Legally Blonde (PG-13)

Elle has a cute boyfriend who dumps her because she's "too blonde" and not serious enough for his future political career. To prove him wrong, she attends Harvard Law School and is soon at the top of her class.

Thursday

Final Fantasy: The Spirit Within

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

Rock Star (R)

Based on a true story, an office supplies salesman moonlights as a musician in a tribute band. His life is changed forever when he is chosen to replace the lead singer of his all-time favorite band, Steel Dragon.

Saturday

Rock Star

Jurassic Park III (9:30 p.m., PG-13)

The Lost World's Site B has been quarantined for five years. But when a boy gets stranded there, a rescue mission is formed, comprising the boy's divorced parents, a few mercenaries and Dr. Grant. But, there've been some unpleasant developments since Dr. Grant was last there.

Sunday

America's Sweethearts (PG-13)

Kiki is the devoted personal assistant and sister of megastar Gwen Harrison. Life with her famous sister has never been easy for Kiki, but it's about to get even harder. Kiki finds she's faced with a more important concern as her life takes a romantic turn.

Monday

America's Sweethearts

Tuesday

America's Sweethearts

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Times and movies are subject to change.
For the most current information,
call 452-9441.

Visit local flea markets, Binsfeld forest march

By Iris Reiff

52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Before colder weather arrives in the Eifel people should consider visiting a local flea market.

Flea markets are popular in this area and tend to get crowded. They take place throughout Germany, regardless of the size of the town.

People can find everything from grandma's shoes to antique furniture, books, old and new toys, plus modern items like clothes, jewelry, baskets and tools. Among items found at every flea market these days are toy figures and telephone cards, which come in collections.

Catalogues and price lists for serious collectors are available at the market or in a German magazine store. Other collector's items include stamps, coins, old porcelain or records. Computer items, ranging from software to mouse pads and keyboards can be found; however, it's not guaranteed the equipment works.

There's something for everyone and every taste at flea markets. Take your time and barter with the owner on the price. Some vendors will barter, while others won't, but it's always a good idea to try to lower the price.

Flea market vendors are often people who combine their hobby with making a little money on the side or who enjoy meeting others and swapping addresses. There are also professionals who operate at the flea market as a business. These people usually buy items such as antique furniture from estate sales and resell them at the weekend markets. Prices on new items are usually somewhat lower than at a regular



Courtesy photo

Local flea markets offer a large variety of items on weekends. People should arrive early to get the best deals.

store; however, people should take a close look at the quality.

Flea markets always set up early in the day, around 7 a.m.

Selling starts around 11 a.m. and people who show up early have a better chance of getting a good bargain. If weather permits, flea markets sometimes stay open as late as 6 p.m.

Many flea markets regularly take place in the immediate neighborhood of the base as well as in other locations farther away. Occasionally, the Eifel Times lists local flea markets.

Binsfeld forest march

The mayor of Binsfeld invites Spangdahlem Air Base members to

participate Sunday in the 7th annual forest march of Binsfeld. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Binsfeld Saalholz hall, located on the road leading to the Binsfeld base gate. The march starts off about 9:45 a.m. At 11 a.m., a local band plays. Refreshments are provided.

Lunch is at 1 p.m., at the Saalholz hall following the march.

Vianden nut fair

The "Nëssmoort" nut fair, a unique market and folk festival takes place Sunday in Vianden. Items such as nut cake, nut bread, nut art and nut brandy are sold in the streets of this quaint little town.

While music bands and folk groups entertain visitors, people can stroll through town and enjoy the festival.

Sports shorts

Barons win homecoming game

By Rik Carr

Bitburg Barons football coach

Homecoming weekend ignited a spark under the Bitburg Barons football team, leading to its first win of the season 49-12 Saturday against conference foe Allied Forces North.

Bitburg is now 1-2 overall, 1-1 in Division II conference play.

The Barons first score came early on a seven play, 75-yard drive on its first possession. Senior Josh Blake took a Travis Carr handoff and rumbled 6 yards for the score. Kicker Shayne Czyzewski split the uprights for the 7-0 lead.

On the next possession, Josh Blake took the pitch and ran to the right side of the field, changed direction and came all the way across to the left of the field to avoid Lion defenders, doubled back to the right and weaved through the defense for the second score. Czyzewski added the PAT for a 14-0 lead in the first quarter.

Two weeks ago, Czyzewski asked the Barons coaching staff for playing time on offense. Starting at halfback, he showed his running abilities by scoring the next two touchdowns on 29- and 23-yard runs in addition to kicking both PATs.

Josh Blake also showcased his passing skills ending the first half with a 45-yard halfback pass to split end Tyler Romano. Carr tossed a 2-point conversion pass to Romano and the Barons went into the locker room at the half with a 36-6 lead.

Many of the Barons reserve players got into the action in the second half, scoring twice and allowing only one late fourth-quarter score. The Bitburg scores came on a 1-yard run by Braden Blake and an Andy Flores 45-yard strike to Carr, who switched to split end in the second half.

Even the Barons linemen got into the offensive action, amassing 37 of the team's 430 offensive yards.

Bitburg equally dominated on the defensive side of the ball, allowing only 9 rushing yards on 27 carries. Linebackers Preston Runquist and both Blake boys, along with linemen Geoff Peele and Brandon White accounted for eight sacks and assisted on four others. Josh Blake also came up with the only interception, while Dan Sheffield recovered the only fumble.

In fifth-quarter junior varsity action, the Barons went against most of the Lions varsity players and held them to a 14-14 tie. Chris Cornell and Demarkus Littles accounted for all the scoring. Littles had a 2-point conversion and a TD run.

The Barons again play at home Saturday against nonconference opponent Patch Panthers. Game time is scheduled for 1 p.m. with a JV fifth quarter.

In addition to the game, Saturday is Parents Day with a ceremony honoring parents at noon on the 50-yard line.

Volleyball sweep

Bitburg Barons varsity teams chalked up wins during homecoming games Saturday.

In volleyball, the Barons swept both Patch, and Giessen twice. Bitburg went 15-3, 15-0 and 15-6 in the first game against Giessen; 15-7, 15-8 and 15-4 vs. Patch; and 16-14, 15-4 and 15-13 in game two against Giessen.

Casey Kahle, Jenni Coleman and Kerri Ihde combined for 33 kills during the matches. Cristi Mittenzwey set incredibly well while Katie Carr and Jessica Woods serves, sets and hits added a strong "one-two punch," according to coach Bill Mittenzwey. "It was a thing of beauty."

Fitness center hours

The Spangdahlem Air Base Fitness Center is now open around the clock, daily. The Bitburg Annex Fitness Center is open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday.